

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00079 101521Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9478
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0079

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, EGEN, RH, SW
SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND: SWEDEN

REF: STOCKHOLM 7078

1. I CALLED ON MFA SECRETARY-GENERAL SVERKER ASTROM THIS
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MORNING AT HIS REQUEST TO RECEIVE THE PRELIMINARY
REACTION OF THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT TO THE JOINT US-UK
PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT
FUND. ASTROM TALKED FROM AND LATER PRESENTED ME WITH THE
FOLLOWING PAPER (OPENING REFERENCE PARAGRAPH OMITTED).

2. BEGIN TEXT:

SWEDEN FOLLOWS WITH GREAT INTEREST AND CONCERN THE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ZIMBABWE AND HOPES THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA WILL RESULT IN INDEPENDENCE FOR THE COUNTRY. IN THE VIEW OF SWEDEN, INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AIMED AT FACILITATING THE TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE AND TO A STRENGTHENING OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE ARE IMPORTANT NOT ONLY FOR THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE BUT ALSO FOR A PEACEFUL DEVELOPMENT IN THE WHOLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. WITH THE FRAMEWORK OF ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, SWEDEN WILL THEREFORE BE READY TO MAKE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN ZIMBABWE.

SWEDEN IS ALREADY PROVIDING SOME HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS AND TO NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA. IF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA RESULT IN THE ESTABLISHMENT

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OF A GOVERNMENT IN AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE, SWEDEN WOULD BE READY TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO SUCH A GOVERNMENT. SUCH COOPERATION COULD BE INITIATED ALREADY DURING THE PERIOD OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT.

WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBILITY OF SWEDEN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED FUND, SWEDEN'S ATTITUDE WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

--- IN ITS PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, SWEDEN

ATTACHES DECISIVE IMPORTANCE TO THE VIEWS OF THE RECIPIENT

COUNTRY CONCERNING THE USE, CHANNELING AND COORDINATION OF SUCH
DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES AS SWEDEN MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE AVAILABLE
TO THE COUNTRY IN QUESTION. IT WOULD BE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THIS
POLICY TO DECIDE ABOUT FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN THE PROPOSED FUND
WITHOUT KNOWING THE ATTITUDE OF THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF
ZIMBABWE ON THE SUBJECT.

--- IN THE VIEW OF SWEDEN, THE UNITED NATIONS OUGHT TO PLAY THE
ROLE OF COORDINATOR OF MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AIMED AT
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FACILITATING FOR A NEWLY INDEPENDENT COUNTRY TO CONSOLIDATE ITS
INDEPENDENCE AND TO ACQUIRE THE RESOURCES NEEDED FOR ITS DEVELOP-
MENT. IF THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF A FREE ZIMBABWE SO DESIRES,
SWEDEN WOULD BE IN FAVOR OF INITIATIVES BY THE UNITED NATIONS
FOR THE MOBILIZATION AND COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL
ASSISTANCE OF THE COUNTRY. UNQUOTE. END TEXT.

3. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT AWARE FROM MY REPORT ON PREVIOUS
MEETING WITH ASTROM ON THIS SUBJECT, THE SUBSTANCE OF THE
SWEDISH PRELIMINARY RESPONSE CONTAINED NO SURPRISES. THE GOS WILL
WANT TO HAVE A PRECISE ASSESSMENT OF BLACK AFRICAN REACTION TO
THE FUND PROPOSAL AND WILL MAKE ABSOLUTELY NO COMMITMENT TO EITHER
THE CONCEPT OF OR FUNDING FOR THE PROPOSAL WITHOUT SUCH AN
ASSESSMENT. WITH REGARD TO GOS DESIRE THAT THE UN PLAY
THE COORDINATING ROLE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE TO A FREE ZIMBABWE, ASTROM INDICATED THAT IF THE
BLACK LEADERSHIP WERE TO ACCEPT THE COORDINATION ROLE OF
ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, SUCH AS THE WORLD BANK,
THEN SWEDEN WOULD HAVE LITTLE DIFFICULTY IN GOING ALONG. IN FACT
SWEDEN IS ALREADY ENGAGED WITH VARIOUS WORLD BANK EFFORTS IN SEVERAL
AREAS IN AFRICA, AND HAS HAD NO PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES WITH
THESE ARRANGEMENTS. ON BALANCE, I CONSIDER THE PRELIMINARY
SWEDISH RESPONSE TO THE US-UK PROPOSAL RATHER ENCOURAGING.
I DO NOT EXPECT A FURTHER OR FINAL SWEDISH EXPRESSION OF VIEWS
UNTIL DEVELOPMENTS AT GENEVA AND WITHIN RHODESIA ITSELF
INDICATE MORE CLEARLY THE TIMING FOR, AND PROBABLE LEADERSHIP

OF, A FREE
ZIMBABWE.
SMITH

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Message Attributes

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